



# Sycamore Class Spring Term 2022

## Life on an Ocean Wave!



### English

In order to make learning meaningful to the children we will, as usual, be linking our work in English to aspects of our theme. The children will learn skills relating to spelling, grammar and punctuation whilst writing myths, creative stories and non-chronological reports related to our learning about the sea and living things. We will begin by reading a myth of Morecambe Bay and the seabirds living there called 'Made by the Moon' and next half term we will write a non-chronological report on animals and their skeletons and muscles.

### Mathematics

Initially, we will develop our understanding of multiplication and division further by moving onto more formal written methods and a range of problem-solving activities. Pupils will thereafter develop their knowledge and understanding of Measurement: Length, Perimeter and Area, and later in the term, we will be learning about fractions and decimals. We will continue teaching pupils different strategies to learn their times tables and encourage them to practise using Times Table Rockstars. It is essential that you continue motivating and supporting your child with their Maths Learning Journey to enable them to recall number facts quickly which will further enable them to be more successful when problem solving.

### Science and Technology

This half term we will be studying living things and their habitats both in our local environment and in the wider world, including in coastal areas such as Morecambe Bay and under the sea. We will be producing close observational drawings and creating and using branching diagrams to identify and classify invertebrates and plants that we find. We will link our learning to our English by researching the seabirds and other living things that can be found in Morecambe Bay. The children will be looking at how living things are adapted to their habitats and how humans can have an impact on habitats, in both positive and negative ways.

### Theme

We will have a local history and geography focus this term, looking initially at the United Kingdom and the counties within England. We will then zoom closer in to look at historical images and maps of the area around school, Lancaster and Morecambe Bay. We will learn the importance of these sources and use these them to ask questions and form conclusions about the area and lives of people from the past. Later on, the pupils will decide on what aspects they would like to explore linked to our theme of a 'Life on the Ocean Wave.'

### Art and Design

Pupils will explore the work of famous artists who depict 'Life on the Ocean Waves' and use their sketchbooks to develop ideas and record their research. They will then develop their observational drawing skills and produce enlarged images of marine life to accompany their databases in computing lessons. Pupils will develop their knowledge of different textiles and experiment with joining materials together. Furthermore, they will explore art linked to ocean habitats with the intention of creating an individual piece of 'textile art'. This might involve weaving, sewing, felting, quilting or dying to create a range of textural effects.

## Design and Technology

Pupils will research and explore the design, appeal and purpose of a range of textile products, examining how they are made and evaluating their success. Thereafter, they will develop their measuring, cutting and joining skills of different materials. Using their acquired knowledge and skills, pupils will design and make a textile product linked to our theme and their research, evaluating and improving as they progress.

## Computing

The children will develop their understanding of simple and branching databases. They will safely use IT to research marine life to create individual records for a whole class database. They'll then use this as the foundation for their own database to help in the classification and identification of sea life. In testing the accuracy of their final outcomes, the children will need to interrogate their databases, debug any errors that occur with their hyperlinks and answer questions from an audience, acting in role as a group of marine biologists.

## R.E

This half term our focus will be on Islam, the Five Pillars and why Muslims fast during Ramadhan. We will think about our own commitments and how we might show our commitment to others, to our school and to our community. We will then continue this thinking by learning about Christianity and Jesus and considering the things we might give up or do for the people that we love.

## Music

The class will continue to learn to play the ukulele with specialist teacher Mr French, building on their skills from the previous term. Pupils will also listen to a range of music inspired by the sea and compare a range of genres from different time periods.

## French

Pupils will continue to develop their knowledge of France and French culture. They will also revise and continue to learn basic vocabulary in the form of simple greetings, introducing themselves, numbers, colours and days of the week. We'll also learn new words linked to animals and the ocean.

## P.E

We are fortunate to have the continued support of Mrs Hunter-Dale (PE specialist) and this term we will be extending our skills in gymnastics. PE may take place on **Wednesday** or **Friday** so the children **must** have their PE kit in school **EVERYDAY**. Please try not to send your child in earrings on PE days as even if they can be removed there is always the worry that they will be lost! Thank you!

## Helping at Home

Please continue to work with your child on the 'Math's Learning Journeys' for 'instant recall facts' such as number bonds and times tables and with the 'Spelling Challenge' book for 'Support for Spelling' that your child brings home each night. It is **essential** that you support your child with their reading, making it a fun, relaxing and enjoyable experience.

We spend a lot of time in the classroom talking about and practising working together as a team. We discuss ways in which we can make everyone feel welcome and valued as part of our class team. However, if your child is not feeling happy about school for any reason, please do not hesitate to let us know so that we can arrange a mutually convenient time to discuss any issues.

If **anyone** can help with hearing children read or activities such as spellings or learning times tables then please come and see us as it is so important for the children to have as much support as possible. Thank you as always for all your support.

Miss Metcalfe and Miss Lamb